



REGISTER NOW

AQuESTT for Nebraska ... emPOWERED by Data

Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)

The first ever **AQuESTT for Nebraska... emPOWERED by Data** conference will be held April 27 - 28, 2015 at the Younes Conference Center in Kearney, Nebraska.

The new system for Nebraska is developing and the Accountability for a Quality Education System Today and Tomorrow (AQuESTT) process provides the framework for Nebraska Education.

The conference purpose is to provide district and Educational Service Unit (ESU) teams with an understanding of the emerging accountability system—AQuESTT, including the six tenets and related areas of focus along with the systems of support for Nebraska schools. In addition, information about the AQuESTT performance classification of public schools and districts and the designation of priority schools related to LB 438 will be provided along with a number of sessions that include the latest efforts in data use, tools, and training around the systems of support for Nebraska education.

Several pre-conference sessions will target specific audiences. A sampling includes a data collection NSSRS/CDC “boot camp,” Learning Forward professional learning, Career Education, and others.

Registration is now open. More details about the conference will be provided as they become available at <http://ndeconference.education.ne.gov>

Who should attend?

School districts and ESUs are encouraged to send teams to the conference to learn about key features of AQuESTT and about critical systems of support. Suggestions for team members include administrators, curriculum directors, special education directors, assessment coordinators, data stewards, school improvement team members, teacher leaders, and others involved in supporting the systems of education for every student, every day.



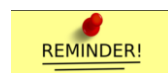
Staff Reporting 2014-2015

Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)

Staff Reporting 2014-2015 upload option will be open April 3. Please **DO NOT** utilize this option unless you can upload all staff from the beginning of the school year with their original assignment(s) and add their new assignments, otherwise; the original data will be wiped out. The data downloads are available to download the staff data as you see it right now, you could download the file and make changes on the downloaded file and reupload, but that might be more work than using the online system (see below). REMINDER: if you upload all staff and some staff have left or been reassigned, report their original assignment with a completion date [Staff Position Assignments(14):Completion Date] and add a new assignment if appropriate. Do not delete the staff person or change their original assignment to the current assignment.

Recommended option: make small changes to individual staff using the online method to avoid losing data if you cannot replicate the original file and add the changes mentioned above. If staff have left or been

reassigned, leave their original assignment and add completion date [Staff Position Assignments(14):Completion Date] to the assignment and add a new assignment if appropriate. Do not delete the staff person or change their original assignment to the current assignment.

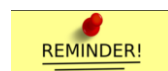


NeSA-RMS and NeSA-AA testing window

Contact: Valorie Foy (402-471-2495 or valorie.foy@nebraska.gov)

The NeSA-RMS and NeSA-AA testing window started on March 23.
The testing window will end on May 1.

Districts will have access to Preliminary NeSA-W Reports and Data Files on eDIRECT.



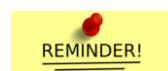
Special Education Post-School Outcomes - Open: April 1 - Due Date: April 30

Contact: Rita Hammitt (402-595-2092 or rita.hammitt@nebraska.gov)

The report for submitting contact information for students who exited special education in **2013-14 school year** can be found on the NDE Portal under the Data Collection tab.

Please be sure to scroll down on the report to enter each student's contact information as indicated. It is very important the student contact information is accurate to assure your students will be contacted and included in this required collection and your district's Post School Outcome report. It may be necessary to gather some of the student contact information from student's resource teachers.

Please note this collection process has been enhanced to document the timely submission of the information as this collection is considered for each district's annual federally required "determination".



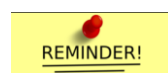
IDEA MOE for Compliance Standard – Open: April 6 - Due Date: May 20

Contact: Pete Biaggio (402-471-4308 or pete.biaggio@nebraska.gov)

Special Education Maintenance of Effort (MOE) Calculation for meeting IDEA Compliance Standard will open on April 6. This collection was previously on paper. This report can be found on the NDE Portal under the Data Collection tab.

School district eligibility for receipt of IDEA dollars is contingent upon maintaining fiscal effort for Special Education from year to year. Districts must expend a greater or equal amount of local or local/state funds from one year to the next to meet the MOE requirement. On April 6 districts will receive final calculations based on actual special education expenditures/receipts/data obtained from the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 Annual Financial Report (AFR) and Grants Management System (GMS).

These calculations for meeting the IDEA MOE Compliance Standard may have resulted in a MOE excess or shortage that requires school district review for determination of adjustments or credits that could modify the MOE level.



Student Summary Attendance (Collection period 3: 2015-01-01 to 2015-03-15)

AUDIT WINDOW CLOSE DATE: April 15

Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)

Public districts and Special Purpose systems only

Student Summary Attendance collection period 3 (2015-01-01 to 2015-03-15) is due April 1.

Audit Window Close date April 15.

Data used for Excessive Absenteeism Quarterly Count and Extract for State Aid Calculation.



GMS Upload Information

Contact: Shane Rhian (02-471-4313 or shane.rhian@nebraska.gov)

Please note that all documents uploaded to GMS applications and reimbursement requests must be in a valid file type which includes .doc, .docx, .pdf, .xls, or .xlsx. The file name should not include special characters such as \$, #, &, or '.' Attempting to upload a file that does not comply with these restrictions will result in errors and loss of unsaved data.



Troubleshooting Errors in Perkins Programs of Study Data

Contact: Rich Katt (402-471-4808 or rich.katt@nebraska.gov) or Bonnie Sibert (402-471-4818 or bonnie.sibert@nebraska.gov)

Review a video at http://www.education.ne.gov/nce/Troubleshooting_Errors_Perkins_POS_Data.html that explains how to improve a district's NSSRS data by trouble shooting errors in Perkins Programs of Study data. Handouts referenced during this presentation including the video are also found at this website. Programs of study are reviewed using the 2014-15 Programs of Study Booklet and/or the Career Education Standards website.

Using the Programs of Study Reporting Instructions for NSSRS, tips for common errors made by school districts that impact their Perkins Programs of Study are reviewed. Three NSSRS verification reports that can be run at the district level to trouble shoot data are demonstrated: Student Verification – Career Education – Programs of Study; Student Verification – Student Grades – Teacher Courses; and Student Verification – Student Grades - Teacher No Courses.

Targeted Audience: CTE teachers, school counselors, administrators, data stewards.

HOW TO CONTACT THE NDE HELPDESK

There are three ways to contact the NDE Helpdesk with questions.

All three ways get to the same place, so please only use one of the following options.

If you send more than one request this may delay our response as we coordinate all requests.

1. Submit a "Helpdesk Request" from your portal account. After logging into the NDE Portal, it is available in the upper right corner of the Collection Announcement page. This will be the fastest way to get your request to the NDE Helpdesk.

OR

2. Email: nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov

OR

3. Call Toll Free: 888-285-0556

Please leave your full name, organization, call back number and a brief description of your question.

ALSO: If you have contacted the NDE Program Staff person, please do not also contact the Helpdesk. Multiple contacts will delay the response.

THANK YOU!

NDE Bulletin now available in RSS Feed

Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)

We have added an RSS feed that users can subscribe to. Don't forget that the current and past NDE Bulletins can always be found at <http://www.education.ne.gov/ndebulletins/index.html>. The RSS feature can be found at the above webpage in the upper right hand corner (orange icon). RSS feeds can be used with Outlook and a number of web-based feed readers. At this time we will also continue to send the bulletin out via e-mail.

Ginny Carter, Helpdesk Manager

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Helpdesk: Toll Free 888-285-0556

Email: nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov